

expect ungrateful returns from those to whom they have displayed the greatest regard.

Providence, however, made a way for Joseph's release. Pharaoh dreamt one night two very remarkable dreams. He imagined, that he was walking by the River Nile, admiring the smooth bosom of the water, or pleased with the rapidity of its current; when suddenly seven beasts appeared on its banks, that were fat and beautiful to the eye, and seemed fit to be slain for food. Seven other beasts followed them, that were thin and ill favoured; and these devoured the beasts that went before. In his second dream, he thought himself walking in the fields, in harvest time, and he observed seven ears of corn, growing on one stalk, large and brown; and on another stalk, were seven small and blasted ears, which appeared to eat up the fine ears of corn, he at first saw.

Pharaoh

Pharaoh told all his servants these dreams, and made enquiry after those persons who were likely to interpret them. This circumstance, brought to the mind of his butler, his former companion in the prison; and he immediately mentioned the case of Joseph to the King, and recommended him as a person likely to interpret the vision. At this time, we may suppose, Joseph to have been near ten years in prison, as he was, we are told, thirty years of age. He was accordingly brought in before Pharaoh. What a change is here? Joseph, who was sold for a slave, is now standing in the capacity of a prophet, before a Monarch, who is seated on a throne of ivory! or reclined on a couch of gold! His humility, in this instance, was as shining, as his chastity in another. "It is not in me, but God shall reveal it to the King." He gave the interpretation: he predicted seven years of great plenty, and seven years of extreme famine in the land. He advised Pharaoh to pre-

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